Daily Report

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FBIS-EEU-91-159 *16 August 1991*

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CSCE Session 'Closing Document' on SFRY

LD0908205791 Prague CTK in English 1933 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Prague Aug 9 (CTK)—Following is the text of the closing document of the 35 nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) emergency session on Yugoslavia, held here yesterday and today, entitled "Assistance to Negotiations on the Future of Yugoslavia".

"The committee of senior officials,

"Underlines the urgent necessity that all parties concerned immediately begin negotiations on the future of Yugoslavia,

"Supports strongly the intention of the Yugoslav authorities to begin these negotiations as soon as possible and not later than 15 August 1991,

"Noting the statement on the situation in Yugoslavia of the CSCE Council in Berlin on 19 June 1991, urges the parties concerned to seek a peaceful settlement based on all the principles and commitments agreed upon in the CSCE process and to abstain from all acts of force or violence or other acts prejudicing the outcome of negotiations which must be acceptable to all people in Yugoslavia,

"Stresses that the use of force to achieve political objectives is inadmissible and insists strongly that all parties act in full respect for all human rights, including the rights of national minorities,

"Expresses its hope that the process of negotiations will lead to positive results and in this context reaffirms the offer of a CSCE good offices mission, as decided at the first emergency meeting on 3 and 4 July 1991, and invites Yugoslavia to make use of this offer, if necessary, in order to facilitate dialogue and negotiations on the future of Yugoslavia,

"Notes with satisfaction that the Yugoslav authorities, as an initial step to this end, have extended an invitation to the European Community and its member states to assist the process of negotiations, as agreed at Brioni,

"Supports the readiness of the European Community and its member states, expressed in their declaration of 6 August 1991, as well as of other interested CSCE participating states, to facilitate and assist these negotiations, at a time and under conditions to be agreed with Yugoslavia,

"Emphasises its resolve to remain seized of this matter. The committee will be convened by the chairmen for an additional meeting whenever the situation requires, and in any event no later than the first week of September 1991.

Agreed in Prague, 9 August 1991.

$36 Million in EC Aid to Central, East Europe

AU0608123191 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 2 Aug 91 p 1

[CTK report: "The PHARE Program"]

[Text] The European Community Commission has decided that 22 projects amounting to 339 million European currency units [ECU] (approximately $380 million) will be financed this year within the framework of the Economic Reconstruction Aid for Poland and Hungary [PHARE] Program for assisting Central and East European countries.

The Twelve's executive has resolved to financially guarantee seven specific programs in Hungary, five in Poland, three in the CSFR and Bulgaria, and two in Romania. Two projects will be region- wide. An overall sum of 31 million ECU's (approximately $36 million) is provided for Czechoslovakia. Twenty million ECU's have been earmarked to support small- and medium-sized enterprise, 6 million have been earmarked to reorganize the telecommunications system, and 5 million have been earmarked to support the energy sector.

The PHARE Program wants the 24 economically advanced countries to help the Central and East European states implement their economic reforms.

CEMA Property Valuation Issue Unresolved

LD1208224791 Prague CTK in English 1629 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, Aug 12 (CTK correspondent)—The latest round of talks on dividing up the property of the former Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) failed to resolve a dispute over the valuation of the CMEA secretariat building, the Czechoslovak deputy permanent representative to the CMEA, Hugo Kysilka, told CTK here today.

At the talks held in Moscow on August 8-9, the Soviet Union insisted that the building should be valued according to Soviet price regulations, at 50 million rubles. The East European CMEA members estimate the building's market value at 200 to 500 million USD, Kysilka said.

The Soviet Union also rejected Czechoslovakia's compromise proposal that half the building be transferred to Soviet ownership and the other half divided among interested CMEA members.

Cmea property issues must be resolved by September 26. Concern was raised at last week's session that the deadline will not be observed.

Another round of talks is due on August 20, Kysilka said.

East European Journalists Meeting Ends

AU1308185791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1745 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/8/1991—An international meeting on the situation of the press and journalist trade union organizations in East and Central European countries was held in Costinesti attended by journalists from Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union.

The communique released at the end of the meeting stresses the need for a legislation of the press to define journalists' rights and obligations as regards the exercise of the freedom of opinion in conditiosn of democratic states of law. The adoption of laws under the incidence of which would fall only journalists, which runs counter to the principles of equality of citizens before the law, is considered a real danger. The constitution alone cannot offer real guarantees to journalists in the absence of a legislation punishing the violation of the rights stipulated by the fundamenal law.

The participants also dwelt on the danger of harming the real independence of the journalists working in state of party institutions. It is considered that they have the professional obligation to preserve their independence of thought and opinion even when they serve their ideology of allegiance. They must preserve the idea of correctness, of respect for deontologic principles.

The participants in the meeting noted with concern the replacement of traditional censorship by a more dangerous and insidious technical censorship, the trade union type of fight to defend material rights being now, and in future as well, an important element in safeguarding the journalists' professional independence.

1,700 Albanians To Stay in Italy 'Temporarily'

AU1508155891 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 1531 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] The last few Albanian refugees in Bari left the port city last night and have been distributed to other regions in Italy.

A total of about 1,700 Albanians have successfully resisted deportation—a much larger number than was originally assumed. However, Interior Minister Vincenzo Scotti made it clear once again that the Albanians have only been taken in temporarily.

On the whole, 17,466 Albanians were deported back home. Tirana has reproached Italy for provoking another wave of refugees by its attitude.

UN Development Official Draper Holds News Conference

AU1508134791 Tirana ATA in English 0906 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tirana, August 15 (ATA)—On August 14, UN deputy secretary-general, administrator of UNDP [UN Development Program], Mr. William H. Draper III, gave a press conference for Albanian journalists in one of the surroundings of "Dajti" Hotel in Tirana. Responding to the questions by the reporters, Mr. Draper voiced his satisfaction over his second visit to our country and pointed to the great changes that have taken place. He underlined that, with the opening in Tirana of the UNDP 113th office this UN organism will increase its contribution to the reformation of the Albanian economy. The UNDP will help with experts and counsellors to back up the Albanian Government in its period of transition from the centralized economy to the market economy, to restructure the bank system, infrastructure, health and educational system, etc. Mr. Draper pointed out that the UNDP will help encourage foreign investors to invest in Albania, playing also a mediating role in these investments. In conclusion of his press conference he underlined that with the approval of the law on private business, private property, the law on the land, the future relations of Albania with the UNDP will be better.

Islami Meets Macedonian Social Democrat Delegation

AU1508135091 Tirana ATA in English 0810 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tirana, August 15 (ATA)—The chairman of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, Dr. Kastriot Islami, received in the People's Assembly the delegation of the Social Democratic Party of Macedonia, led by its chairman, Prof. Dr. Tihomir Jovanovski, who has come to our country at the invitation of the SDP [Social Democratic Party] of Albania.

Dr. Kastriot Islami acquainted the members of the delegation with the first pluralistic assembly and the representation of the political forces in it, with the democratic developments in Albania, etc. He stressed that on the basis of the friendship and understanding all possibilities exist for the consolidation of the relations between Albania and Macedonia due to the short distance. Of importance for the national problems and the further democratization of the country, Dr. Kastriot Islami pointed out, is the spirit of understanding between political parties.

On his part, Prof. Dr. Jovanovski spoke of the actual situation in Yugoslavia and Macedonia. He demanded to transmit to the president of the Republic of Albania, Ramiz Alia, the invitation for a friendly visit in Macedonia, in the name of the chairman of the Republic of Macedonia, Kiro Gligorov.

Kosovo Assembly Delegation Arrives

AU1508185791 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] A delegation of the Kosovo Assembly, headed by its deputy chairman, Iljaz Ramajli, arrived in our country today.

The delegation was met at Rinas Airport by Lush Perpali and Dr. Aleksander Meksi, deputy chairmen of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, and deputies and officials of the People's Assembly.

Kapllani Reports to People's Assembly on Kosovo Situation

AU1508190491 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Timo Luto report]

[Excerpts] The People's Assembly resumed its proceedings at 1000 today. At the beginning session, Foreign Minister Muhamet Kapllani read a report on the political situation in Kosovo and the stand of the Kosovo Government on this issue of vital national importance. After this report, the assembly instructed the government to study all aspects of the current situation in Kosovo and other Albanian-inhabited territories in Yugoslavia, and to present its standpoint, considering all possible developments. The assembly will then consider the stand taken by the government and will define its policy on this issue. [passage omitted]

Before the start of the afternoon session, Dr. Kastriot Islami, president of the Presidency of the People's Assembly, and deputies from the two parliamentary groups received the members of the Kosovo Assembly delegation headed by Iljaz Ramajli and had a warm and fraternal conversation with them. The deputies of the People's Assembly also greeted the delegation of the Kosovo Assembly.

The assembly then continued its proceedings in parliamentary groups.

Ministry Spokesman on Progress of Land Distribution

AU1508134691 Tirana ATA in English 1158 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tirana, August 15 (ATA)—An announcement of the spokesman of the Ministry of Agriculture points out the work of the Government Commission on Land, especially on the commissions set up in the districts of the country.

A report stresses that in separate districts, such as Elbasan, Fier, Lushnje, etc., a good work has been carried out to set up the commissions for land division in the villages, at a time when in some other districts, as in Pogradec, Mirdite, Tropoje, Librazhd, etc., work has not started yet.

In its meeting, the Government Commission made remarks to the Ministry of Agriculture, which is not yet fully committed to this important undertaking.

The successful implementation of the Law on Land within the shortest possible time, the commission underscored, demands also the cooperation of all the country's sociopolitical forces so that the tranquility required by all be restored.

Casualties in Tropoje Land Distribution Conflicts

AU1508203891 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 2000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Report by Ilir Bucpapaj from Tropoje]

[Text] There have recently been acute social problems in Tropoje District over the problem of distributing land according to old boundaries and distributing of the resources of agricultural cooperatives following their dissolution and reorganization. Many bitter quarrels have erupted in the district's villages.

A typical case was a quarrel among families on 15 August in the village of (?Motaj), when the 56-year-old Murat Aliaj and his 25-year-old son Ferat were killed by a gun, while [name indistinct] is in a very critical state in the hospital in Bajram Curri. The incident in Motaj took place over property. This is initial information, and still unverified reports state there may have been about 10 people killed or injured on both sides. It must be stressed that any delay or negligence on the part of all levels of the state apparatus in preventing such incidents, especially in the villages of Tropoje District, where there is very little cultivable land, poses a danger of sparking conflicts with undesirable repercussions. The situation now at 1930, is extremely tense. The forces of order have taken measures, but there is a need for care and cool heads on all sides, or there will be other conflicts.

People's Assembly Discusses Unemployment Benefits

AU1508134891 Tirana ATA in English 0805 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Tirana, August 15 (ATA)—The People's Assembly continued its proceedings on August 14 before noon in plenary sittings to examine in principle the draft law "On Social Assistance for Persons Who Remain Jobless From the Application of the Economic Reform." According to this draft law, the right for social assistance is enjoyed by all the working people who remain jobless as a result of the narrowing, closure or reorganization of the enterprises, institutions, or ministries as a result of privatization and technical and technological renovation, the specialists who work in the countryside and live in the city and the military men who are released from the duty ahead of time. The draft law places all of them on equal conditions and gives for 12 months a monthly pay for a minimum of living. This sum is envisaged to be 70 percent of the minimum payment of 675 leks a month, in the second half of the year it is 10 per cent lower.

During the discussion of this draft law, there were many remarks, especially for the monthly sum and the categorization of the persons who profit it, etc. It was proposed that the draft law be re- examined by the government. The Deputy Leontiev Cuci said that in the conditions of the shock therapy it is impossible to make more and we should accept the pains deriving from it.

The assembly will continue its proceedings on August 15 before noon.

BTA Reviews 15 Aug Political Developments

AU1508172791 Sofia BTA in English 1657 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—Today parliament finally passed the bill for the coming parliamentary and local elections. It also voted an amendment to the Land Act which was passed this February. A bill for the creation of a financial-crediting institution in housing construction was voted on first reading.

The strike wave in Veliko Turnovo (in northern Bulgaria) is on the decrease. The drivers' strike was given up today. So was the sit-in strike in the offices of the Hoist Electric Motors Plant and the occupation of the Bishop's residence in Veliko Turnovo. The Prosecutor's Office will initiate proceedings against the clergy in case the misappropriation of 300 thousand leva in the Bishopric is confirmed.

Today is the fourth day of the strike of medical workers in Ruse (in northern Bulgaria). The strike is permanent and the citizens of Ruse face troubles when they need health certificates.

The Board of Governors of the Bulgarian Union of Doctors and the Supreme Medical Council issued a declaration expressing their solidarity with the committees that have declared strike alert, but they distance themselves from the intentions for effective strike actions of medics.

The Ministry of Health told the press that all ineffective hospital beds and even whole health service establishments will be "frozen." The budget share for health care, however, will remain unchanged. Additional 886 million leva will be necessary to pay the doctors' wages till the end of the current year.

The Neochim company in Dimitrovgrad can no further count on many of its customers. The main Bulgarian buyers of its fertilizers, the farms, are in grave financial condition. Neochim is trying to make its way in the international market.

The Bulgarian Socialist (formerly Communist) Party [BSP] founded an election coalition with five other parties bearing the words "Christian-Republican," "Liberal," "Democratic," and "fatherland" in their names. The six will take part in the elections with a single ballot-paper in red, the colour of the BSP.

The BZNS [Bulgarian Agrarian National Union]-United has offered the Bulgarian National Democratic Party [BNDP] and the Bulgarian Constitutional Forum to set up a political union, it was reported at the briefing of the BNDP today. The union will be called National Concord Bloc.

Today the initiative group for the organization of an extraordinary congress of the BSDP [Bulgarian Social Democratic Party] this weekend confirmed their intentions. They do not rule out the possibility for the establishment of a new organization if the BSDP leadership fails to attend the congress. Yesterday the leader of the BSDP, Dr. Petur Dertliev, called the congress illegitimate.

UN human rights experts praised Bulgaria for the honest and thorough presentation of the situation of the minorities despite the remark that the written report fails to answer a number of questions. The report covers the period January 1986-January 1990. According to a representative of the expert group, Bulgaria deserves an appraisal for its struggle against discrimination after the years of totalitarianism.

Thirteen Bulgarian officers are ready to leave for Western Sahara. They will take part in the UN mission for a referendum in the former Spanish colony, which is intended to put an end to the fighting and secure the people of Western Sahara the right to free self-determination.

Zhelev Returns Election Act to Assembly

AU1508172891 Sofia BTA in English 1720 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—A few minutes after the passage of the Elections Act tonight President Zhelyu Zhelev decreed that it should be returned for consideration.

The presidential move was motivated by the fact that certain clauses of the new law are inconsistent with Bulgaria's Constitution and with the international acts to which Bulgaria is a signatory. They also run counter to the general democratic tendencies in Bulgaria, the decree says.

According to President Zhelev, Article 11, which stipulates that Bulgarian citizens living abroad may cast their votes only in Bulgaria, is unconstitutional. Last year's act, by which the present National Assembly was elected, did not contain this restriction, President Zhelev recalled. The Bulgarian president said that Article 11 harms the political and civil dignity of the Bulgarian citizens living abroad.

The president disagrees with yet another clause of the act which bans organizations not registered under the Political Parties Act from launching election campaigns.

The above-mentioned two articles were imposed by the Socialist majority in parliament.

Ambassadors Say Expatriates Disappointed

AU1508182791 Sofia BTA in English 1812 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—Ms. Lea Koen, Bulgaria's ambassador to Belgium, Mr. Stoyan Stalev, ambassador to Germany and Mr. Ivan Stanchov, ambassador to Great Britain, have sent a letter to President Zhelyu Zhelev expressing the deep disappointment of

the Bulgarians living abroad at the recent decision of the National Assembly which deprives some 500,000 Bulgarians of their right to vote. The ambassadors argue that this act tarnishes Bulgaria's democratic image which they are trying to promote abroad.

Developments in Miners' Strike, Negotiations

AU1508190891 Sofia BTA in English 1850 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—The miners' strike which was declared yesterday is continuing but the number of miners on effective strike is still unknown. According to the National Strikers' Committee with the Podkrepa Miners' Federation, the number of strikers has reached 18,000. However, the Miners' Federation with the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (KNSB) argues that only 3,500 of all the 100,000 people employed in the mining industry have gone on strike. This figure they say, includes not only miners but white-collar workers as well. On the other hand, according to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the total number of miners in Bulgaria is about 10,000.

Today there were talks between government experts and experts from the Podkrepa Miners' Federation. Parallel talks were scheduled between cabinet members and Dr. Konstantin Trenchev, president of the Podkrepa Labour Confederation, and Prof. Krustyo Petkov, KNSB president. Dr. Trenchev left the meeting after explaining that he was not authorized to represent the Miners' Federation and his place was taken by the chairman of the National Strikers' Committee with the Podkrepa Confederation.

Prime Minister Dimitur Popov expressed his anxiety over growing tensions among the miners and over the possibility of other trade unions following in the wake. There has been talk of strikes in other sectors, such as healthcare and communications, in which strikes are unlawful. Mr. Popov called on the Strikers' Committee to call off the strike during the talks. Mr. Popov added that it should not be expected that in its short term of office the present government could solve the problems of mining and metallurgy that had built up over the years, nor could it implement reforms in these industries which require long-term programmes and considerable investment.

Prof. Petkov expressed the support of the KNSB for the just demands of the miners but stressed that the KNSB distances itself from the strike which in its opinion is not well organized. The KNSB believes that the strike will put off wage bargaining by ..ree to four months thus aggravating the problems of the miners. Prof. Krustev [name as received] opposed the demand of the strikers that the government name all mines due to be shut down. This will spark high social tensions, according to the KNSB.

Mr. Ivan Pushkarov, minister of industry, trade and services, believes that this is not the whole truth about mining in Bulgaria. The government has donated funds to keep miners' wages at current levels although the drop in production in this industry is 20 percent higher than in the rest of the economy. 980 million from the 2.5-billion-leva debt has been covered by the budget. Unemployment in the industry is relatively low. According to data released by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, a miner's average salary is 1,600 leva.

Government, TU Meet on Strike

AU1508181391 Sofia Khristo Botev Radio Network in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] On 15 August a meeting took place at the Council of Ministers between the government and representatives of Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation on the miners' strike.

Prime Minister Popov stressed that many of the problems can be resolved; however, the present government cannot be held responsible for problems that have accumulated throughout the decades.

It was decided that on 16 August ministers, experts of the Council of Ministers, and representatives of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation should meet to seek ways to resolve the problems. It appears that experts of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria will join the meeting.

Tourism TU Sues Government Over Privatization

AU1508143391 Sofia BTA in English 1414 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—At a press conference today Mr. Asen Chaushev, president of the Business Trade Union of the Employees from the Tourist Industry, said that privatization in tourism has been delayed by almost a year now. Mr. Chaushev said that many employees want to take tourist facilities on long-term leases, guaranteeing their right to buy these facilities at residual value later on and guaranteeing that repair works and furnishing be financed by the owners. According to Mr. Chaushev, this form of management will be the most suitable one for the next ten years because it is still unclear who is the owner of some 90 percent of the facilities and because the Bulgarians cannot afford to buy them.

This idea has not yet been implemented because in April the State Committee on Tourism decided not to lease tourist facilities. Then the trade union took action against the government but the trial was adjourned until August 20, 1991 because, according to the judicial authorities, the Council of Ministers, had been "improperly summoned." Mr. Chaushev said he was worried that the cancellation of this decision "which dooms to failure the next summer tourist season" might take a long time.

"While in 1990 the Balkantourist Foreign Trade Company yielded a profit of 80 million dollars, this year it took credits valued at 80 million leva to survive," Mr. Chaushev said.

BSP, Others Form Six-Party Election Coalition

AU1508134591 Sofia BTA in English 1254 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—Today the BSP [Bulgarian socialist Party] built an election coalition with five other parties.

The former Communist Party will take part in the coming elections with a red ballot-paper including also the Bulgarian Liberal Party, the Democratic Party in Bulgaria, the Fatherland Party of Labour, the Christian Women's Movement Party and the Christian Republican Party. Each of the parties will have its own election platform. Under the agreement signed by their leaders, the six parties will set up a parliamentary union in the future parliament.

The Christian Republican Party was set up in November 1989 in Plovdiv. Its chairman is Mr. Konstantin Adzharov. Last year it made an attempt to unite the opposition outside the SDS [Union of Democratic Forces] into an opposition political bloc. After last year's elections it initiated the creation of a Consultative Council of the non-parliamentary parties. Another member of that Consultative Council is the Christian Women's Movement Party. It was founded last year and is chaired by Ms. Elisaveta Milenova. The Fatherland Party of Labour was created in 1990 and is chaired by Mr. Rumen Popov. This March the party walked out of parliament and its only MP, Mr. Dimitur Arnaudov, represents his electorate alone. The Democratic Party in Bulgaria (led by Mr. Kostadin Georgiev) and the Bulgarian Liberal Party (led by Mr. Vulkan Vergiev) were founded in 1990 and did not take part in last year's elections.

This is an open coalition, BSP leader Aleksandur Lilov pointed out at the press conference after the signing of the agreement. He hopes that more parties will join the coalition. According to him, the coalition is between equal parties (the BSP is half-million strong). The union is based not on the unity of platforms but on the unity of the goals of the six: the protection of democracy and civil peace, said Mr. Lilov.

Ms. Velislava Dureva, journalist and member of the radical wing in the BSP, asked him whether this union is not a way for the BSP to establish a new identity for itself by using phantom parties. "The coalition is between equal parties," emphasized Mr. Lilov.

The common list of the coalition's nominees will not be worked out by quotas. It will be worked out democratically, Mr. Lilov assured. The candidates will be nominated by the electorate. "We are not a joint-stock company," said Mr. Konstantin Adzharov, the leader of the Christian Republican Party.

BSDP Split at Extraordinary Congress Forecast

AU1508125891 Sofia BTA in English 1231 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—At the end of this week we will learn whether Bulgaria will have yet another social democratic party. A group of members of the BSDP (Bulgarian Social Democratic Party), dissatisfied with the present policy of its leadership and united around a Steering Committee will hold a two-day extraordinary congress

At a press conference today representatives of the Steering Committee found it hard to find grounds for convening the supreme forum of the party among the quite a few possibilities provided by the statutes of the party. They said they enjoyed wide support among the local organizations. The journalists could not make out the exact number of organizations supporting the holding of a congress.

It was stated that the aim of the supreme forum is not the foundation of a new party but a correction of the political course of the present one. However, the possibility of the formation of a new political organization if the present leadership does not take part in the work of the congress or if the demands of the Steering Committee are rejected was not excluded.

The present leadership of the Social Democrats, headed by Dr. Petur Dertliev, sees no possibility for its taking part in the congress and regards it as illegitimate.

The criticism leveled by the Steering Committee is related to the drop in the membership of the party and to its failure to act in the present situation. It is believed that this is due to the intention of the party to run on an independent ticket in the forthcoming parliamentary and local elections.

The Steering Committee is firmly for a "single blue"—the colour of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces [SDS]—ticket. They believe that this is the only way for winning the elections and destroying the totalitarian system.

The journalists were assured that the criticism is not directed personally against Dr. Petur Dertliev but against the leadership as a whole. It is accused of counter-statute actions in taking decisions. The formation of the SDS-Center was contested here.

Press Comments on SFRY Reparations Claim

AU1508162391 Sofia BTA in English 1527 GMT 15 Aug 91

["Belgrade's Short Memory Has Long Tradition—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, August 15 (BTA)—With a series of historical analyses and other features the press keeps commenting on the course of the crisis in Yugoslavia and the recent claim of

the Serbian Parliament for some "reparations" Bulgaria allegedly owes to Yugoslavia for World War II.

Acad. Ilcho Dimitrov, a renowned historian, says that the reasons for the present crisis have their roots in the very creation of Yugoslavia over seven decades ago by the victorious great powers in World War I. In an article in "TRUD" Acad. Dimitrov describes Yugoslavia as "an artificial creation of European diplomacy." This materialization of the pan-Serbian aspirations has many times faced disintegration but was saved by Tito through Stalin's model of federation, he writes. "All this time Yugoslavia—no matter who ruled over it, a king or Tito—was the major obstacle for good neighborliness in the Balkans. She includes territories forcibly torn from almost all neighboring countries. She had additional territorial claims against Greece, Bulgaria and Italy and she believed they were threatening her existence," says "TRUD."

Today's "DUMA" writes: "The big European states that contributed most to the creation of Yugoslavia after World War I have fallen into a state of political infantilism. Belgrade is mocking them and is ruining all their principled peace-making attempts for the settlement of the Serbian-Slovenian and the Serbian-Croatian conflict. The American diplomacy has forgotten the words of the American John Gunther who as early as 1937 wrote that the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes is the product of unnatural cause association. Today Washington has to acknowledge that its initial plans for the settlement of the Yugoslav problem have come to fail and to seek new ways under the threat that the Balkan obstinacy of an ultimate nationalism might spoil them in germ."

Under the headline "Short Memory has Long Tradition" Prof. Dimitrov recalls that more than 16,000 Bulgarian soldiers were killed in the war for the liberation of Yugoslavia in 1944-1945 and that many of those who survived were decorated by Tito personally. "In the harsh winter of 1944-45 the Bulgarian people sent freight trains loaded with food, clothing and medicines worth some 2 billion leva to Yugoslavia while at the same time many Bulgarians were starving. The Bulgarian children lived in poverty but in January 1946 Bulgaria provided food and shelter for 10,000 Yugoslav children despite the enormous expenses which reached 900 million leva," "DUMA" says.

"Why does Belgrade stick to the so-called Bulgarian reparation debt," the author asks, recalling that within the framework of the Bled Agreements and the 1947 declaration of the its government, Yugoslavia officially dropped its demands for reparations fixed at 25 million dollars by the Paris Conference and in the Bulgarian-Yugoslav Peace Treaty.

"It is not by chance that it is the first time Yugoslavia has raised 'the problem' of reparations although there have been many periods of 'animosity, alienation and even pre-crisis situations' in the Bulgarian-Yugoslav relations during the rule of Tito," it is said in the article.

According to DUMA, "the present Serbian claims are an attempt to renounce Tito's legacy in the development of Bulgarian-Yugoslav relations and serve three main goals." Recalling Bulgaria's "obligations" to Yugoslavia the pan-Serbian nationalists are trying to make Sofia conform with Belgrade on the Yugoslav crisis.

Moreover, the continuing attempts to discredit Bulgaria are part of a scheme to put a portion of the blame for the Yugoslav crisis on Sofia. "The third main goal is to spark off Serbian nationalism whose profile is now clearly outlined against the backdrop of the blood spilt in Slovenia and Croatia," the newspaper says.

Slovak Party Rejects Meciar Coalition Concept

LD1508160191 Prague CTK in English 1456 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bratislava Aug 15 (CTK)—The Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) in Slovakia today rejected Wednesday's proposal by Vladimir Meciar, the chairman of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS), to create a "grand coalition" in the Slovak parliament.

At a KDH press conference, Slovak parliament Vice Chairman Ivan Carnogursky described the idea as one of a series of unconsidered and unfeasible proposals of the HZDS, adding that such an offer from a movement with only 18 deputies in parliament cannot be accepted. It would have to come from stronger partners in the opposition, such as the Democratic Left Party (SDL) and the Slovak National Party (SNS), he said.

In a statement to CTK, the Public Against Violence (VPN) movement also dismissed Meciar's proposal as unworkable.

KDH chief secretary Jan Petrik told the press conference that the KDH is opposed to a referendum on Czechoslovakia's future setup unless the principles of the federal system are precisely formulated.

He said the KDH wants to maintain a federal system based on a treaty between the Czech and Slovak republics.

Petrik said Czech political representatives have made great efforts to reach an understanding with their Slovak partners on constitutional matters, and cited the current visit to east Slovakia by Federal Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, chairman of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS). He said representatives of the Civic Movement (OH) are due to visit Slovakia on August 30 and ODS members will hold talks in Slovakia with the KDH and other political parties on September 9.

Kotas on Conservatives, Merger With ODS, Future

AU1408171691

[Editorial Report] Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech on 12 August on pages 1 and 3, under the headline "Equal Opportunity for All," publishes a 2,000-word interview with Jiri Kotas, chairman of the Conservative Party-Free Bloc [KS-SB], by Ivo Slavik. The place and date of the interview are not given.

Asked about a possible merger between the KS-SB and the Civic Democratic Party [ODS], Kotas says: "Despite a different genesis, these parties have a common denominator. The actual differences are not significant enough to warrant the existence of two parties. We are negotiating, and as early as this fall or by January at the latest, we should have one clear-cut conservative party and subsequently a common, convincing list of candidates for the next federal and national elections." This means, according to Kotas, that "the rightwing will no longer be juggling with terms but a clearly defined concept that the voters can accept or refuse." He continues by describing the situation on the Czechoslovak political scene as "a confusion of terms." "Many people claim to be the right wing but, at the same time, they disseminate or politically promote ideas that belong neither to the right, nor to the conservative political spectrum. This spectrum is based on the idea that the free individual and moral superiority of individualism are obvious." Kotas goes on to explain: "Individualism does not mean that I do not give a damn about my neighbor. Individualism means that I claim precisely defined limits and borders within which I can move freely. At the same time, I definitely and unequivocally concede the same limits and rules to the person next to me, and thereby to the entire society." This individualism, according to Kotas, "must become the basis for the future building of a legal state, i.e. there must be no second-class citizens...."

The next question introduces a new topic, the possibility of the disintegration of Czechoslovakia. Kotas responds by predicting that "in Slovakia the elections will be won by a somewhat unclear coalition concentrated around Mr. Meciar. In Bohemia and Moravia, the elections will be won by the conservative right-wing tendency emerging from the KS-SB and the Klaus ODS. This, according to Kotas, raises a question of "whether in such an event, a federal government could at all be formed." Kotas believes that a coalition could be formed to overcome the crisis. As he phrases it, "At times you have to join a party with people with whom you would not otherwise associate, only to prevent something even worse." The main issue is, according to Kotas, that "the monopoly of the Communist Party not be revived. That makes us allies."

Kotas goes on to say that the opinion that Czechoslovakia should be divided into two independent states is "a natural reaction to the 40-year absence of any rational discussion on the topic." If the CSFR is to survive as a single entity, Kotas says, "we must find far more rational arguments than emotions for the existence of the state." It would be possible to form an economic and customs union similar to Benelux—the most catastrophic scenario for Kotas—however, "the international guarantees of the Czechoslovak border, particularly in the eastern part of the Republic, are not warranted by any other entity but the Czechoslovak state." In other words, the Trianon Agreement would not apply. Kotas also declares that the only issues he is willing to discuss with former Slovak Prime Minister Meciar, the present one, Jan Carnogursky, and the Czech representatives is the economic link between the two regions and an improved chance for both nations to provide a framework for their further development.

In the conclusion, Kotas refutes the claim that if Meciar's group won the elections in Slovakia and the right-wing bloc won in Bohemia, the state could not be maintained for economic reasons. He says that in such a

territory as Czechoslovakia, only one economic policy can prevail. The problems are identical, and they have to be dealt with jointly.

Extraparliamentary Assembly Organizing Opposition

AU1408144991 Prague CTK in English 1149 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Prague Aug 12 (CTK)—Chairman of the Extraparliamentary Assembly, Miroslav Kulhavy, today told a press conference that the main aim of the Assembly is the development of extraparliamentary and anti-government opposition in Czechoslovakia.

The Extraparliamentary Assembly was created on July 30 1990 by a group of political parties which in the 1990 parliamentary elections did not win the necessary five percent of votes and are not represented in the Federal Assembly (parliament).

The Extraparliamentary Assembly is an open platform of eight right-oriented political parties from Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia, the most radical of them being the Assembly for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia (led by Miroslav Sladek).

Kulhavy said the Extraparliamentary Assembly is winning ever more supporters among independent deputies to the Federal Assembly and thus influences the strengthening of parliamentary opposition.

Representatives of the Extraparliamentary Assembly called for the holding of a referendum on the future setup of Czechoslovakia. They stressed the right of all nations to self-determination and said they would also respect Slovakia's decision to withdraw from the federation. The Extraparliamentary Assembly agrees with the support for and recognition of the independence of Slovenia and Croatia, and the Baltic republics, its representatives said.

[Prague OBCANSKY DENIK in Czech on 13 August on page 2, under the headline "Family Cliques," carries a 150-word "(jr)"-signed report on the same Extraparliamentary Assembly meeting. It refers to the speech made by Jan Vik, spokesman for the Association for the Republic-Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, at the meeting. According to Vik, "the Carnogursky, Dienstbier, Ruml, Palous, Benda, Miklosko, Sabata, and Uhl family cliques are manipulating this society." He also claimed that the current situation in Czechoslovakia is similar to that of the Middle Ages.]

Pithart Continues To Urge Kubat Dismissal

LD1508192691 Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Excerpts] Now, more about yesterday's news conference by Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart. We have already told you about it, but not about the prime minister's expectations about politics and the economy this autumn:

[Begin Pithart recording] [passage omitted] I have voiced my personal nonconfidence to Minister Kubat and asked for his resignation in the presence of the presidium of the government. I do not criticize Mr. Kubat for his views. I think his views are correct. My objection against him is that he is not competent to hold office.

I know that sounds like a feeble argument, that it is not enough. I might be expected to have disputes with him over the idea of transformation of cooperatives or not to agree with him, in principle, on the attitude to Slusovice. There are continuous attempts to get us into this sort of clash. Nobody can achieve this because nobody ever saw us clash on these ideas.

Simply, he cannot cope with the job. He comes up with solutions too late. He does not tell us on time what we should expect. The government often acts on agricultural issues without his initiation on these actions. We do the same if the government decides that the ministry of Mr. Kubat simply does not implement them.

Quite simply, he cannot cope with the job. I still like him. This is not a personal disagreement. Today, however, it does not seem enough when it is said that somebody cannot cope with his job. Everybody goes on asking what is behind it? What is behind it? A leftist conspiracy? This is paranoia in which it is impossible to do any work! Every matter-of-fact problem is transposed immediately into a sort of ideological or a political or party controversy. [end recording]

Finance Ministry Projects 1992 Economic Situation

LD1508192991 Budapest MTI in English 1351 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Budapest, August 15 (MTI)—Hungary's external economic balance is showing far more favourable tendencies this year than originally forecast, but considerable tensions have developed in the internal balance, especially the budget, Peter Kiraly, state secretary at the Hungarian Ministry of Finance, told a news conference here today.

The remarkable fallback in 1991 was due to the collapse of the East European market. Exports from West European and overseas markets were not sufficient to offset that. No further fallback is likely in Hungary's exports to East European countries, meaning overall exports could grow, too.

The Finance Ministry expects domestic consumption to increase to a certain extent in 1992, as it has also been on the decline, and this has played a role in the decrease in production.

This could well lead to a halt in the economic decline next year, and the GDP could grow by between 2.5 and 3 per cent.

Despite this slight increase, though, Hungary's 1992 economic performance will not reach what it was in 1990, which in itself was much lower than the 1989 level. Next year, the rate of inflation is likely to go down. (This year, it stood at around 38 per cent.)

Consumer price rises in 1992 are forecast to trigger a 20 to 23-per-cent rise in the rate of inflation during the year.

Domestic consumption will perhaps grow by 1-2 per cent.

Gyorgy Naszvadi, deputy state secretary at the Finance Ministry, told journalists that the country's budget deficit would significantly exceed the 78 billion forints forecast for this year.

This figure is likely to be overshot, with the deficit expected to range between 80 and 90 billion forints.

The budget deficit was 30 billion forints in 1990.

Mr Naszvadi stressed that such a huge deficit simply cannot be maintained in the long run, because it makes curbing inflation impossible.

The current budget deficit projection for 1992 is around 70 billion forints, Naszvadi said.

Financing the interests on state debts run up as a result of former deficits is causing the country's budget more and more headaches.

In 1991, the budget will have to pay out 108 billion forints for financing the state debt service.

In 1992, the corresponding amount could reach 128 billion forints.

The 1991 budget allows the Hungarian state to draw a 60-billion-forint credit from the National Bank of Hungary to finance the planned deficit of 78 billion forints.

In addition, the possibility exists of issuing 15 billion forints' worth of gilts and 3 billion forints' worth of treasury bills.

Since the deficit is expected to reach 80-90 billion forints this year, Gyorgy Naszvadi said, parliamentary authorization will have to be sought in order to take out a further central bank credit or to issue securities.

The Finance Ministry will do just this when it submits the draft of the 1992 budget to parliament.

Pozsgay Comments on Prospects for New Party

AU1408184691 Budapest MAI NAP in Hungarian 12 Aug 91 p 3

["P.L."-signed interview with Imre Pozsgay, Assembly deputy and chairman of the National Democratic Alliance, in Kony; date not given: "What Is New, Imre Pozsgay?"]

[Text] Imre Pozsgay visited his native village of Kony in Gyor-Moson-Sopron County recently. He gave an interview here:

[MAI NAP] You founded a party at a time when people are turning their backs on politics. Nobody knew what your movement is really called. Do you think that your timing was extremely bad?

[Pozsgay] In my view, the founding of the National Democratic Alliance was at a proper time, precisely because people have lost confidence in the other parties, and in the legislative parties in particular. The silence and lack of knowledge about our movement had their reasons. We watched who came forward for a political role under the current conditions. We do not want to make a big noise, and we avoid extremists. Building a party is what characterizes us today. We want to avoid the fatal phenomenon in which something starts as a movement, then turns into a party, and finally the organization kills the movement. If it is necessary and the proper time comes, we will accept legislative representation. However, I would like to see the freely-elected National Assembly carry out its legislative activity for the entire period of its mandate.

[MAI NAP] Obviously, you were at the peak of your political popularity in March 1989. Were you afraid, or did you refrain from leaving the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP] at the time?

[Pozsgay] There was no personal fear involved. I already accepted risks about which I should not talk. In the

spring of 1989, I felt that I had to stay and carry out a few tasks, like the coordinating talks in the summer and the dissolution of the MSZMP. This could only be done from within.

[MAI NAP] Will you tell us who finances your party?

[Pozsgay] We already have sponsors, the founding members, and various entrepreneurs. We also have someone who took it upon himself to finance the publication of a weekly. In European politics at the end of the 20th century, the members provide the direction of a movement, and capital provides the necessary means for a movement to employ experts and to be able to engage in politics in a professional way.

[MAI NAP] In other words, you do not agree with those who say that history has surpassed Imre Pozsgay?

[Pozsgay] Nobody should interpret it as a lack of modesty if I mention the article published in the FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, according to which I would again be the Hungarian politician capable of stirring the dead waters of Hungarian public life. Besides, history has numerous examples of political gratitude and ingratitude. Let me remind you of Winston Churchill, who lost the elections in 1945, but the public brought him back again to the political arena in 1947.

Border Controls Tightened on Weapons Smuggling

AU1608083391 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 13 Aug 91 p 3

["ES"-signed report: "Tighter Border Control Due to Weapon Smuggling"]

[Text] Weapons smuggling through Hungary has recently increased, probably as a result of the SFRY events. The destination is usually the SFRY.

Major General Gyula Szente, deputy commander of the National Command of the Customs and Internal Revenue Police [VPOP], confirmed that various kinds of weapons have been found, ranging from machine guns to handguns. Only Yugoslav citizens have been arrested so far.

According to the experience of the customs guard, these weapons only pass through Hungary, and they are not bought here. Presumably, a considerable number of them originate in Austria; this is shown by the fact that smugglers have also been caught at the Austrian-Hungarian border. According to Szente, it is hard to estimate the volume of these murderous tools, but some must get across the borders because it is impossible to examine every single traveler.

Gyorgy Balogh, commander of the VPOP, thought it possible that weapons could pass through the border unnoticed in closed lorries or as spare parts of handguns and shotguns.

Together with the VPOP, the Border Guards introduced tighter traffic control on Monday, 12 August. The Border Guards' spokesman justified this measure in view of the forthcoming papal visit and the increasing weapon smuggling. According to the spokesman, tight controls will not slow down border traffic significantly because suspect vehicles will be set aside for a second examination.

Pope John Paul II Departs for Hungary

LD1608085391 Warsaw PAP in English 0824 GMT 16 Aug 91

[Text] Krakow, Aug. 16—Pope John Paul II ended Friday morning the second part of his fourth pilgrimage to the homeland and left for Hungary aboard an Alitalia plane that took off at 10:18

At the Krakow Balice airport the pope was bidden farewell by the highest state and church officials, with President Lech Walesa, Mrs Walesa, Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki and Poland's Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp.

Earlier in the morning, the pontiff celebrated a mass at the Jasna Gora shrine in Czestochowa, attended by Paulite fathers.

Call for Political Consensus on Reforms

LD1508182191 Warsaw PAP in English 1721 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Katowice, Aug. 15—"The electoral mechanism is a means of criticising the government, a price built into the electoral process," said Andrzej Zarebski, government press spokesman, at a meeting on Thursday with representatives of political parties and socio-political groups from Silesia held in the southern Polish town of Katowice.

He called on all political groups to show responsibility for the state, so that a political consensus can be created on the reform programme. "The government wants to lead Poland to the elections without political tremors. The more people that take part in the elections, the greater the chance for the triumph of the supporters of reform," he said.

Zarebski said that regionalisation was an essential element in the moves away from the centralised state. "However, we cannot allow this process to weaken the state," he added. "The centre will lay down the general assumptions, but the final shape must be worked out from below," he said.

Return to Solidarity's 1980 Ideals Urged

PM1608083091 Wroclaw SLOWO POLSKIE in Polish 9 aug 91 p 3

[Statement by Jozef Pinior, coordinator of the Wroclaw Socialist Political Center, Solidarity National Board member 1982-87: "What Is Left of August 1980?"]

[Text] In August 1980 and for some time after it seemed that the old utopian dream of a self-organized movement of direct producers of manufactured goods had come true within just a few days. The spontaneous and impetuous general strike, and the way in which workers organized themselves into strike committees in all major enterprises, constituted for us all signs of liberation and proof that bureaucracy was finally being debarred from exerting its influence over the way things were run in the country. And when Solidarity came into existence many of us thought that its birth denoted an end to the post-Stalinist era and the beginning of a new system. That new system was to be based on self-organization developing from the bottom up and also on the principles of democracy. We believed that it also meant an emancipation of the whole of society, which would experience a revival within new self-government power structures very different indeed from the old bureaucratic kind.

Solidarity was a fundamentally new formation. It combined a natural egalitarianism of workers in the major industries with sensitivity to the personal rights of the individual. Step by step, it created areas of freedom and fraternity within which the mechanisms of democracy, together with the clearly defined and correctly interpreted principles of justice, combined to shape the self-awareness of the whole movement. The 21 demands put forward by the Gdansk unionists and the program of the "Self-Governing Republic" defined the intellectual horizons of Solidarity at that period.

That was how things were then. However, during the 11 intervening years Solidarity changed from an embodiment of emancipation into a symbol of new mechanisms of exploitation and domination. It has changed from a symbol which united the exploited and repressed into its exact opposite: a new political and financial establishment. Unfortunately, the working people allowed the program of the "Self-Governing Republic" to be taken away from them. They acquiesced, silently and without resistance, to a manifestly antisocial program devised for Poland by the IMF. Instead of putting up a protest, Solidarity agreed to play the role of a peculiar "transmission belt" between procapitalist governments on the one hand and workers and the intelligentsia on the other. The egalitarian and democratic ethos of the 21 Gdansk demands has been superseded by a program for the creation of a new middle class: a class which will agree to anything small, such as small stores, small-scale speculation, and subordination to the world centers of capitalism. It is the ideas of that new middle class—not those of the working people—that now seem to occupy the minds of yesterday's leaders and underground heroes.

I believe that we will be witnessing this particular kind of alienation from the ideas of the 1980 revolution for quite some time to come.

Will the current developments kill off the ideas and values created by August 1980 and wash away its human and moral potential? Or will it, maybe, refer to them and continue them consciously? The answer is in the hands of the younger generations of workers, the intelligentsia, and various social movements (such as women's or youth movements) who decide to be true to their genuine vocation. The answer is also in the hands of that part of society which refuses to accept its subordinate status and which sooner or later begins to organize in defense of its material and cultural values.

The challenges facing the whole of Polish society undoubtedly require new forms of activity and organization. They also need new intellectual inspirations of the kind which Solidarity could not, or would not, exploit. The present situation, in which the union identifies mindlessly with the power apparatus or the Roman Catholic church, will result in ever larger social groups moving away from it. New models of emancipation (for example, the recent generation of enterprise strike committees) can develop alongside and outside Solidarity structures. In this way the legacy of August 1980 could be taken up, even in defiance of the union, by new generations and new social movements. And this would mark an authentic victory for the revolution begun at that time.

Uses for EC Environmental Aid Considered

AU1408142891 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 9 Aug 91 pp 1, 2

[Text] Our two years of cooperation with the European Communities Commission resulted in a grant of about $25 million dollars to protect the environment. That was the first phase.

Today, in the second phase of implementing the so-called PHARE program, we expect to receive another $35 million to $40 million. This is major assistance in carrying out projects involving the protection of the air, land, and water against industrial waste. The program will now include additional measures to safeguard animals and plants.

This is meant to do more than protect the natural environment around, for example, the Mazury lakes. At a news conference on 8 August, Jan Brinkhorst, director general for environmental protection, nuclear safety, and civil defense at the European Communities Commission in Brussels, said that the objective is also to preserve the unique natural environment in northeastern Poland, beginning with the Bialowieza Forest. Cooperation with Belorussia will be necessary because a major part of this unique nature reserve lies on the other side of the border.

Brinkhorst drew attention to the importance of regional programs, e.g. cleansing the dirty triangle in the Sudeten Mountains (these mountains are situated at the intersection of Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Germany). The point is also to protect precious natural environments at the intersection of the Polish, Slovak, and Ukrainian borders, and to improve the ecological situation in Upper Silesia. Poland's association with the EEC may accelerate the attainment of Western European standards concerning environmental protection and food.

What will we spend the money on? Completing the environmental clean-up programs that have already been started. Projects in Upper Silesia will use up much of the money. The fulcrum of activity is now shifting toward a cleanup of the Oder River basin, involving the French firms that won the contract. Another important task, also on an international scale, is to clean up the Baltic.

During yesterday's conference, also attended by Environmental Minister Maciej Nowicki, much was also said about the need for cooperation in nuclear safety. Professor R. Zelazny, chairman of the State Atomic Agency, said that Poland is surrounded by nuclear plants designed by Soviet engineers.

FSN Leadership on UDMR Proposed Roundtable

AU1508174591 Bucharest AZI in Romanian 8 Aug 91 pp 1, 2

["Declaration of the Executive Bureau of the National Salvation Front Steering Collegium Regarding the UDMR Proposals on Ethnic Minority Issues;" issued in Bucharest on 7 August]

[Text] Recently, the National Council of the Delegates of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR] launched a proposal on "convening a roundtable at the national level, to find solutions to the minority problem, with the participation —in the first stage—of the Romanian Government, the National Salvation Front [FSN], and opposition parties, a roundtable that later should be joined by other political forces and other ethnic minorities."

In connection with this proposal, the Executive Bureau of the Steering Collegium reaffirms the fact that the FSN has firmly engaged in promoting a policy aimed at achieving a democratic framework based on a state of law. Within this context, the approach to the ethnic problem and to interethnic relations is aimed at ensuring and observing human rights in a unitary national state, a state for which sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence represent fundamental values. At the same time, in accordance with international commitments assumed by Romania in the system of the United Nation's organization and of the CSCE, efforts are being made on legal, institutional, and practical planes to create a modern and coherent framework for promoting and protecting human rights in their indivisibility. These efforts have been materialized in the great amount of laws adopted by the Parliament and in the process of working out the draft constitution.

The Executive Bureau hails and supports all initiatives and actions meant to make a contribution to actions to find ways and means to eliminate all states of social tension and to create the climate of good understanding and co-habitation among all citizens of our country. That is how we would have wished the UDMR demarches to be.

Resorting to a most strange interpretation of democratic processes in our country, by denying evolution—in spite of all evidence— and affirming that "political and social processes have slowed down and even stopped," and that "the opportunity to solve poor interethnic relations that existed for years on end" have not been used, the UDMR proposal expresses from the very beginning an obvious ill-faith.

Such an attitude does not promote a spirit of dialogue and understanding.

Taking note of the content of the UDMR proposal, the Executive Bureau of the FSN Steering Collegium notes that:

1. The democratic process that started with the 1989 December Revolution has required a constant effort to create all the necessary conditions for all citizens of our country, conditions that permit them to fully enjoy effective equality of rights and benefit from fundamental freedoms, regardless of the ethnic, linguistic, cultural, or religious minority to which they belong. The endorsement of the new constitution will represent a decisive step in this respect. The democratic rights and freedoms included in this draft—on which the Parliament is going to decide soon—offer a sure guarantee for minorities. Within this context, discussions on the so-called "ethnic problem" with the UDMR within a roundtable attended by the government, the ruling party, and the opposition parties would represent a groundless, inefficient, nondemocratic, and unacceptable artificial formula. Not to mention the fact that a meeting that does not involve from the very beginning all national minorities would not only be a discriminatory action but also a way to materialize the UDMR's attempts to create a privileged status in relation to the organizations of other minorities in our country and to speak on their behalf.

2. The role that the UDMR wishes to grant to this "roundtable" is incomprehensible because Point "C" of the proposal leads to the conclusion that the decisions that this meeting would adopt could "prevent the continuous worsening of interethnic relations, sterile confrontations within the Parliament, local or country-wide conflicts, confrontations, and useless polemics."

To accept such a decision would mean to ignore democratic institutions and processes, to continue maintaining a state of temporality in approaching and solving the problems of our society, and to resort to improvised formulas that lack all political legitimacy and have nothing to do with the requirements of a state of law.

The FSN cannot accept such an approach and believes that this is also the position of every responsible political party.

3. As far as Romanian-Hungarian interstate relations are concerned, ways to approach these relations should be ways that have been established and regulated within international norms and can be achieved through bodies and institutions that deal with interstate relations.

In conclusion, we believe that the proposals on mediating these relations are not only unwelcome, but they also represent the UDMR's wish to assume prerogatives that belong on a state level; therefore, we reject them most categorically.

The Executive Bureau of the FSN Steering Collegium believes that dialogue is the sole way to find solutions to any problem. Therefore, to set up discussions on interethnic relations in our country is welcome. The most appropriate framework for such a meeting should be the Romanian Parliament—that is within the commissions for human rights, religious denominations, and ethnic

minority issues, that, as a matter of fact, include deputies and senators from among all ethnic minorities represented in the Parliament.

As a result, the Executive Bureau has granted a mandate to all FSN parliamentary groups within the two commissions to organize such a discussion at the time and in a way that is going to be decided upon by all the interested sides.

Bucharest, 7 August 1991

Young Liberals Protest Socialist Labor Party

AU1508151791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1307 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/8/1991—The Liberal Party-Young Wing considers that, given the stands taken by the participants in the recent Congress of the Social Party of Labor, this party violates the National Security Law, shows a statement the Young Liberals sent to the national news agency ROMPRES for publication.

The Steering Committee of the Liberal Party-Young Wing notifies in this way the General Prosecutor's Office which is in a position to take the due steps toward outlawing such an extremist political grouping.

Likewise, in conformity with the Charter for Reform and Democracy which stipulates that the parties signatory to it militate against any extremist, communist and fascist manifestation, the Young Liberals expect the other democratic parties to set forth their opinion on this matter.

Iliescu Condemns ROMANIA MARE Articles

AU1508143291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1037 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/8/1991—"I disavow all antisemitic positions", states Romanian President Ion Iliescu in an interview with EXPRES MAGAZIN review.

"The existence of this current promoted by several publications", the president says, "brings big damage to the country. They work against the nation. Whoever reads them and wants to understand the Romanian society's frame of mind is terrified. The article in "ROMANIA MARE" terrified me. It had everything short of the invitation that we should go and kill the Jews. I am a dedicated antifascist. I have Jew, Hungarian friends, I even spent my childhood with Geza Domokos. We are on friendly terms now, even if our political views differ. The mistake comes from the other side as well. I talked to Moses Rosen and I reproached him for his attempt to promote the idea that the holocaust started in Romania. It is not this the historical truth. What he stated was taken advantage of by the antisemites, so "ROMANIA MARE" appeared as the people's defender.

"My position is a loud 'no' to this current that does only harm to Romania", President Iliescu shows.

As for the "EUROPA" review, the Romanian head of state says: "I have not even seen this review. I do not receive it, so I do not read it, I guess it has a small circulation".

Reaction to French Article on Nastase, Ceausescu

AU1508142791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1124 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/8/1991—Referring in a news briefing to the feature report "Ceausescu Is Not Dead" by publicist and writer Michel Tauriac in weekly PARIS MATCH, Romanian Foreign Ministry spokesman, State Secretary Teodor Melescanu stressed: "For myself, I was stunned by the fact that Romanian foreign minister, Mr. Adrian Nastase was termed by the author as Ceausescu's representative to the UN Commission on Human Rights, which is definitely untrue, since it was about the end of January 1990, when the dictator was dead. Besides, I had the feeling that the feature report was done in a hurry, with lots of spelling mistakes and wrong assessments. It seems to me that it does not befit a journalist to use as sources the statements of Romanian political refugees in France or chance collocutors. Such a coverage, that does not comprise the tiniest appreciation about post-revolution Romania has a quite different approach from what I would have expected from a serious publication or a publication that claims to be an element of formation of public opinion".

On the other hand, in a note on the same subject-matter sent in to the ADEVARUL editors, ROMANIA LIBERA Publicist Corneliu Vlad shows: "I talked to publicist and writer Michel Tauriac a whole morning a few weeks ago. In his feature report, my interesting and eager collocutor referred to elements of that talk but, much to my regret, he also attributes to me a few statements like: "ADEVARUL is the central mouthpiece of Securitate," "ADEVARUL is the newspaper of the Front," "ADEVARUL has the same title and staff as it had under Ceausescu". I try to explain for myself the 'liberties' is the above-mentioned feature report only through the author's hurried documentation on a subject-matter with such a thrilling headline or through the necessary but unfaithful summarizing—in only a few sentences—of a nuanced, several-hour long talk. However, besides being astonished by such an unwanted happening I am also sad because the respective PARIS MATCH issue, hence also the above-mentioned untrue quotations, has a circulation of 1,150,000 copies.

Trade Union Delegation Visits Moldova

AU1508180391 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1715 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 15/8/1991—A delegation of the National Confederation of the Free Trade Union Organizations of Romania headed by Victor Ciorbea,

chairman of the General Council, has recently paid a visit to Chisinau [Kishinev] at the invitation of the Federation of the Independent Trade Union Organizations of the Republic of Moldova.

The Romanian delegation was received by Mr. Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, and by Mr. Valeriu Muravskiy, prime minister of the Republic of Moldova.

During the visit talks were held with a delegation of the Federation of the Independent Trade Union Organizations of the Republic of Moldova headed by Dumitru Nidelcu, president of the Federation. Following the discussions between the two trade union delegations an agreement of collaboration as signed concerning domains of mutual interest and exchange of information and delegations at various levels.

Federal

Army Paper on Abuse of Peace Initiatives

LD1508191191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1407 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Belgrade, August 15 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav army weekly NARODNA ARMIJA says in its newest issue that "members of the Yugoslav People's Army are decisively against the abuse of citizens' peace nitiatives by some parties and movements."

The paper says that efforts for halting armed conflicts and the resolution of problems through negotiation and in a peaceful way are not in question, but underscores that some peace gatherings do not even make the difference between para-military formations and the Yugoslav People's Army.

"There can be no support for such activities which demand a ceasefire in order to create conditions for the further arming of para-military formations," NARODNA ARMIJA says and adds that unacceptable are "demands directed, under the guise of peace, towards the disorganization of the Yugoslav People's Army, and which call for young men to ignore military service and soldiers to desert."

The weekly sets out that "the army's state of combat readiness nd ability to carry out its basic tasks at this time of extremely tense military and political conditions, is hampered by a number of factors including: the transfer of two army corps from Slovenia into the interior, the "thinned-out July contingent of recruts" and the existing acute danger from foreign military involvement."

Army Seizes Croatian TV Transmitters

LD1508224291 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2200 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] The staff employed at the Croatian radio and television Celevac transmitter reported that the Yugoslav Army has installed a new 500 watt transmitter at this facility that relays the programs of Belgrade television. This television signal covers an area that penetrates 30 km deep into Lika territory. If the antenna system is turned southward, the television signal could cover the broad Biograd, Benekovac, and Zadar area. During a terrorist action the Army also seized a transmitter of the second program of Croatian television above Knin, which all Belgrade television programs used to transmit. The Yugoslav Army has now occupied the borders of the so-called Krajina Serb autonomous region not only with tanks, but with media as well.

First District General on YPA Duties in Crisis

LD1508161691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1134 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Horgos, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—We send this message today from here: Yugoslavia must be preserved within those borders and with those Yugoslav nations who wish to live in it. And as long as Yugoslavia exists, we will protect its borders.

Colonel General Mladenko Maksimovic, deputy commander of the First Military District, stressed this at the formal celebration of border guard units day in this military district, which took place today at the Bosko Palkovljevic Pinki watchtower, near Horgos on the Yugoslav-Hungarian border.

Congratulating the border guards of this watchtower for first place as the best watchtower in the First Military District this year, Gen. Maksimovic stressed that the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] will vigilantly and fearlessly watch over the integrity of Yugoslavia, as the community which will be an expression of the wishes of people, and not the quarreling politicians who represent them.

Regarding the fact that the YPA is paradoxically, as he said, in certain areas even officially proclaimed as an occupying force, Gen. Mladenko Maksimovic stressed that this situation will not and cannot last, because everyone will soon have to answer to their own people.

Stressing that the attitude and the role of the YPA in resolving the Yugoslav crisis is clear and has been publicly stated several times, Gen. Maksimovic said that the YPA accepts those solutions which lead to a peaceful resolution of the social crisis, by respecting democratic determination of all nations as far as their life on the Yugoslav territory is concerned, and that it will not interfere in political solutions.

Our task is, he added, to ensure conditions for negotiations at this crucial time, which we will persistently observe. This is the reason for our engagement in preventing interethnic clashes in the crisis-ridden areas of the country and other tasks that are determined by our supreme command. This stand of ours rises from the Constitution. [sentence as heard]

We will defend the freedom of those who ask this of us and, in this we will not impose ourselves on anyone, nor will we take sides. We will support only those solutions which are not imposed, either from abroad or internally, said Maksimovic.

Those who think that they will satisfy their old appetites with the quarrels of the political leaders, that they will make up for what they lost a long time ago by wrongdoing, or that they will acquire something that had never been theirs, he added, are wrong. People are realizing who represents whose interests in our country.

The best border guards were presented "exemplary soldier" badges and other military recognitions.

International

Hungarian Body Urges Resisting 'Secessionists'

LD1508161591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1031 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Novi Sad, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—The Association of the Hungarians for Our Fatherland Serbia and Yugoslavia [Udruzenje Madjara za Otadzbinu Srbiju i Jugoslaviju] today appealed to the Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija to resist "the secessionists and the foes who are irrevocably driving them into disaster and tragedy. We appeal to them to stop being cannon fodder for Tudjman's fascist regime and the traitorous Slovene regime," says the statement signed by the organization's chairman Jozsef Molnar.

At the same time Molnar has denounced the stands of the Democratic Community of Vojvodina Hungarians [Demokratska Zajednica Vojvodjanskih Madjara], whose chairman Andras Agoston had addressed a special letter to President of the SFRY Presidency Stjepan Mesic asking for Hungarian soldiers "to be demobilized and withdrawn from the area of military conflict because they do not wish to take part by force in interethnic conflicts."

Criticizing this stance of Agoston's, Molnar says that "if tragedy is mentioned then we must say that it would be tragic for us Hungarians if the policy is put forward by the Democratic Community of Vojvodina Hungarians wins out, because this policy could drag us into direct conflict with the Serbs and place us in the ranks of the enemies of our own republic." In Jozsef Molnar's view, the Hungarians in Serbia enjoy "civic and national rights that are greater than the rights enjoyed by any national minority in any country."

Egypt Offers To Mediate Crisis

LD1508194591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1525 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Dejan Vasiljevic report]

[Text] Cairo, August 15 (TANJUG)—Egypt 'supports a peaceful and democratic settlement of the crisis in Yugoslavia and strongly advocates the preservation of Yugoslavia's territorial integrity and political unity,' the Cabinet of Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa officially told TANJUG on Thursday.

TANJUG's correspondent also learned from well-informed sources that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak had 'offered his goodwill services' and expressed readiness to go to Belgrade on a mediatory mission to make it clear to all 'those who hope for a disintegration of Yugoslavia' that 'the Arab world does not want to see that happen.'

It is evident from the meetings with Egyptian officials that they see a possible further deterioration of the situation in Yugoslavia and elsewhere in Europe as a 'danger for the Middle East' because the region could then be relegated 'to a marginal position in international politics.'

Should Yugoslavia today, and the Soviet Union tomorrow, attract the full attention of Western countries and their capital be funnelled to settle the problems in Europe's troublespots, Egypt would not be pleased with such a deveeopment.

The survival of the Egyptian regime depends considerably on Western financial support while the process of negotiation in settling the Arab-Israeli problems enables Egypt to play a key role in the region.

TANJUG Cites EC on Peace Conference

LD1508193691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1755 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Brussels, August 15 (TANJUG)—Diplomatic circles in Brussels and The Hague view the agreement of a number of European Community member-states to propose the convening of a peace conference on Yugoslavia in case of failure of 'intra-Yugoslav peace talks' as an instance of positive political pressure on all factors in the Yugoslav crisis.

E.C. sources say that the proposal will be made only if the Yugoslav side should see it as a chance to trace the institutional and constitution outlines of its future system and eliminate the cause of the conflict.

At their closed-door conference in The Hague on August 6, the E.C. foreign ministers discussed ways and means for organizing a peace conference on Yugoslavia.

The president of the E.C. Council of Ministers, Dutch foreign minister Hans Van den Broek, made the idea public on Monday, and Brussels insists that it is no more than an idea as yet.

According to this idea, the conference should be organized as an intra-Yugoslav conference with active assistance from the E.C. According to another and more widely acceptable idea, it should be convened under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which rallies 35 states—the European states, Canada, the Soviet Union and the United States.

E.C. analysts believe that the opinion is gaining ground in the political circles of the twelve that solution to the Yugoslav crisis should be sought within the CSCE regulations and mechanisms.

The number is growing of those who believe that any unilateral recognition of individual Yugoslav republics would only plunge Yugoslavia deeper into chaos and jeopardize the entire European order based on the CSCE principles.

Furthermore, it is believed in the E.C. that the organization must not be caught without an alternate offer in case of failure of 'intra-Yugoslav talks', not the least because some

of the E.C. member-states might opt for a unilateral recognition of individual (Yugoslav) republics.

Sources in Brussels and The Hague (the Netherlands is holding the E.C. rotating presidency) indicate that all the Yugoslav federal authorities are willing to do at this time is to hear the community out on what the offer of a peace conference on Yugoslavia actually entails.

The same sources say that Moscow has approached The Hague with a request for a more detailed explanation of the E.C.'s ideas for settling the Yugoslav crisis.

The idea to convene the conference has been upheld by The Hague, Paris, Madrid and Bonn.

Impending Attack on Croatia Doubted

LD1508175191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1637 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Zagreb, August 15 (TANJUG)—Representative of the European monitor mission in the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia Marco Henis today expressed doubt in the possibility that the Yugoslav army would execute a frontal attack on the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia.

In an interview to Croatian radio, Henis said that "European observers in Yugoslavia doubt such an attack could take place," but added that "the monitor mission is cautious and does not wish to make any predictions."

Croatian Defence Minister Luka Bebic said on Wednesday that a large-scale attack by the Yugoslav People's Army on this republic could be expected today. Croatia unilaterally proclaimed independence on June 25.

The Yugoslav military leadership believes such claims are "arbitrary and probably part of the propaganda war," member of the Federal Presidency commission for monitoring the cease-fire in Croatia, Irfan Ajanovic told reporters yesterday.

Ajanovic said the military leadership had been warned that Croatian armed forces were preparing an attack on Serb-populated places in Croatia.

In the radio interview, Henis also said that the international mission expects concrete tasks in Croatia "after the peace conference on Yugoslavia." It is not known yet at what level the conference will be organized, he said.

"The mission is in contact with the Yugoslav Army because of the control of its withdrawal from Slovenia, but there have been no communication so far with the Yugoslav Presidency commission for monitoring the ceasefire in Croatia," Henis said.

Slovenia

Prime Minister Peterle Assails Markovic Moves

LD1508222591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1933 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—"There will be no changes in the Slovenian government until the end of the moratorium," Slovene Prime Minister Lojze Peterle told the Slovene Press Agency. He emphasized that "faster changes in the government are not necessary and that even he himself has not suggested them."

Answering a question on whether most conflicts can be expected in connection with the borders, Peterle said that "actually the border administration is fully working and in accordance with the Yugoslav provisions, and thus there is no reason for any protests or international intervention." According to Peterle, "what Markovic is now doing represents a continuation of the war in the economic and diplomatic fields. We shall therefore be compelled to anticipate Markovic by some actions of our own," Peterle emphasized.

Answering a question on whether the Slovene customs are sending money to Belgrade, Peterle said that no money is being sent and that it is accumulating in an account in Slovenia. "When the federal government is prepared to implement the Brioni Declaration in this respect, that is, when it agrees to set up a control committee composed of finance ministers and one or two foreign observers, we can talk about the use of this money," Peterle emphasized.

In connection with the countermeasures concerning the confiscation of Slovenian property in Serbia, Peterle said that such measures were prepared but added that some experts from Europe and the Chamber of Economy of Slovenia advised against them. "We have assessed that countermeasures are not necessary. We believe that sooner or later there will be democratization in Serbia as well." In this connection, Peterle also said that "the Serbian government pointed out that it does not support such things, but the fact is that it has not done anything about them either."

Answering a question about his opinion on the laws on privatization and denationalization, Peterle said that he considers "this package of laws to be in order now and there is no need to return it to the draft stage." He also emphasized that apart from the independence of Slovenia, "this is the most important thing from the Demos pre-election program."

Council: Federal Authorities 'Violating' Brioni

LD1508212691 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 2000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] The Executive Council of Slovenia today held its regular session at which attention was paid to the implementation of the decisions of the Brioni Declaration. The meeting particularly especially emphasized that the

Slovenian side is respecting the Declaration whereas the Federal authorities are violating it.

At the news conference, Slovene Information Minister Jelko Kacin stated in his introduction that even during the period of the moratorium the Slovenian economy is not immune to the one-sided decisions of the Federal Government, for which it will be necessary to prepare suitable countermeasures.

Andrej Ocvirk, Vice President of the Executive Council, said that the Federal Government argues that Slovenia is not implementing the Brioni Declaration. The key questions concern credit and monetary policy, customs and the opening of the airspace. In spite of the arguments of the Slovenian side that Slovenia is not violating the decisions of the National Bank of Yugoslavia and that it is operating in keeping with the Yugoslav provisions, the Board of Governors of the National Bank of Yugoslavia has not annulled its decision to exclude the Bank of Slovenia from the Yugoslav monetary system.

The audit carried out by the National Bank of Yugoslavia has also established that Slovenia is respecting the said provisions. This was stated by Franc Arhar, who added that Slovenia will be forced to start issuing special bonds into the monetary circulation unless the bank board's decision is called off. Regarding custom duties, there are still many open questions. The Slovenian government stands by its view that the customs are a republican service and that it is applying Federal provisions during the moratorium. An agreement has therefore been proposed on cooperation between Slovenia and the federal government regarding customs and other border checks. The Slovenian government believes that a special account should be set up into custom duties which would be paid and which would also enable control over the use of these means. This, however, has not yet been accepted by the federal government.

The opening of air traffic is proceeding exceptionally slowly, said Slavko Hanzel, representative of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. Slovene airspace is still not open to general flights. This means that the federal government is violating the Brioni Declaration, thus causing Slovenia great economic damage. Other interests are also likely to be behind all this.

Customs, Border Control Agreement Proposed

LD1508192491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1229 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Ljubljana,15 Aug (TANJUG)—Following its session today the Slovene government will propose to the Federal Government an agreement on cooperation in the discharge of customs and other border controls. The key point of this agreement is to establish an account and to control this account into which customs revenues will be paid. The Slovene gvernment persists in its view that customs payments are Slovene and that it operates in keeping with federal regulations, as it has done until now. Slovenia is also proposing that the federal customs administration, in conjunction with the republican administration and with EC envoys, can discharge ad hoc [povremen] control on the borders. The news of this proposal was given during a news conference today held after the Slovene government session.

Republic Delinquent in Federal Treasury Payments

LD1508190191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1215 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—Following the independence proclamation, Slovenia has not paid into the federal treasury a single dinar from customs dues. This was confirmed today by Andre Ocvirk, president of the Slovene government, at a regular news conference following a government session.

Cease-Fire Commission Meets; Exchange Ends

LD1508215491 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] We have just received the latest information on the exchange of prisoners of war from Osijek:

[Prkacin] This is Nada Prkacin reporting for Croatian Radio from Osijek. On the basis of the all-for-all principle, at about 2100 this evening an exchange of prisoners was carried out at (?Klisa), 17 kilometers from Osijek. Fourty-three prisoners from the Osijek district prison were exchanged for 34 detainees in Borovo Selo. The exchange was preceded by a closed meeting of the members of the commission responsible for cease-fire supervision, after which Vasil Tupurkovski spoke with journalists.

[Begin Tupurkovski recording] Today, the working group of the state commission, comprising Vasil Tupurkovski, Bogic Bogicevic, Irfan Ajanovic, as well as Croatian ministers Drazen Budisa and Zivko Juzbasic, visited Borovo Selo and had talks on the implementation of the SFRY Presidency decision on a cease-fire in Croatia. Also taking part in the talks were representatives of the Serbian nation, Goran Hadzic, Ilija Koncarevic, Ilija Petrovic and Ilija (?Koljic). The talks continued this afternoon in Osijek and included the president of the municipal assembly, Zlatko Kramaric; the president of the crisis headquarters for Slavonia and Baranja, Vladimir Seks; the president of the executive council of the municipal assembly, Srecko Vogrincevic; and Serbian representative Ilija Koncarevic.

It was assessed that the provisions of the SFRY Presidency decision are being only slowly implemented, particularly regarding the monitoring of the cease-fire and the unblocking of settlements and communications. Particular attention was devoted to the problem of individuals taken prisoner in the crisis areas and the method of their release. An agreement was reached on the release of these individuals on the basis of all-for-all this evening at 1900. It was also assessed that there are certain problems

in registering individuals taken prisoner and there are uncertainties surrounding a number of these people.

It was agreed that with the goodwill of the interested parties all these problems will be jointly resolved. The members of the state commission guaranteed on behalf of the commission and on behalf of the SFRY Presidency that all relevant facts will be fully investigated, which will make possible the establishment of the full facts on the fate of all persons whom one side or the other considers to have been captured. To this end visits to a number of villages inhabited predominantly by citizens of either Croatian or Serbian nationality will begin as early as tomorrow. [end recording]

Negotiations Underway

LD1508162891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1332 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Borovo Selo, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—The members of the state commission for cease-fire in Croatia visited Eastern Slavonia today. The main task of the members of the SFRY Presidency, Vasil Tupurkovski and Bogic Bogicevic, and Vice President of the Yugoslav Assembly Irfan Ajanovic was to reach a specific agreement on the exchange of prisoners from both confronting sides.

In addition to the members of the commission, the talks in Borovo Selo were also attended by Goran Hadzic and Iliga Kojic, elected representatives of the Serbian people for Slovania, Baranja and Western Srem. Ministers Zivko Juzbasic and Drazen Budisa took part in the talks on behalf of the Croatian government. They did not want to talk to TANJUG after the talks.

This was the first visit made by official representatives of the Zagreb government to Borovo Selo since the well-known bloodshed of 2 May this year and several subsequent attempts by Croatia's armed formations to take control of this indomitable village. Budisa, as Goran Hadzic told TANJUG, did not want to recognize the hosts as representatives of the Serbian people in this area. Hadzic retorted in similar fashion by stressing that he would only talk to the Croatian people's delegates.

The agreement was reached that prisoners should be exchanged according to the all-for-all principle, which in fact means, Hadzic added, that the Serbian side will release 27 prisoners and Croatia 56. Due to a dispute over how the exchange should be carried out, the members of the state commission had to change their schedule and leave for Osijek.

If the agreement on the immediate release of prisoners is really reached, as Vasil Tupurkovski told the press, this will be a first sign of goodwill by both sides that the fragile cease-fire may be extended and that other vital issues can be tackled in the coming days. The SFRY Presidency member went on to say that this should be followed by talks on removing the barricades from the roads, lifting the blockade around the villages, the normal functioning of postal services, and regular water and power supplies.

In Irfan Ajanovic's words, the cease-fire is generally being respected although there have been a number of incidents. Who and when started shooting will be established by a special commission. "An undeclared war, interspersed with terrorism and organized and spontaneous crime, is being waged in Eastern Slavonia," the vice president of the SFRY Assembly said.

Croatia

Mesic: Country Unlikely To Survive Present Form

LD1508132691 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1113 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Bonn, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—It is unlikely that the SFRY will survive in the present form, SFRY Presidency President Stipe Mesic said.

In a STERN interview, published in Hamburg, Mesic said: "We must see whether it is possible to have a looser community of the republics, like an economic community or an alliance of equal republics, which would preclude Serbian domination."

Adding that "the Serbian leadership opposes this," Mesic said: "It is untrue that the Serbs from Croatia want to live in Serbia,"—that is, "the majority of them voted for a sovereign Croatian state in a referendum."

Mesic noted: "It is impossible to seek this type of solution (autonomy for the Knin Krajina)," because just 15 percent of "the Serbs from Croatia" live in Krajina.

Asked "whether he, in his capacity as head of state, has control over the Yugoslav Army," Mesic said: "The Army leadership says that it will listen to the state Presidency." However, he added that "the Serbian block, with its four votes, is preventing the Presidency from reaching a sensible decision."

Mesic claimed that "the Serbian volunteers are encouraged by the Army intervention" and that "they get arms from Army supplies." "This shows the side the Army has taken. Army guns are aimed against Croatia," he said.

As conditions for peace, Mesic cited "the army withdrawal to barracks, recognition of borders, and withdrawal of the Serbian volunteers from Croatia." "In that case, we would have peace in three days," he claimed.

Asked whether peace would be jeopardized if disturbances break out in Kosovo, Mesic said: "Yes, this is the biggest problem in the SFRY, because three million Albanians are without human rights."

Mesic added that "the Serbian minority has all the power there" and that "there are no Albanian policemen, teachers, directors, and doctors" because "all of them

were dismissed and replaced by Serbs." He concluded that "Albanians want democracy."

Almost half of the interview was about history. It started with the question of whether the Serbian leadership was right to defend its minority in Croatia.

"Every conqueror has someone to defend. Hitler was defending Sudeten and Danube Germans. Milosevic now defends the Serbs in Croatia and wants to occupy Croatian territories. He is an aggressor," Mesic said.

Probed by STERN that the Serbian minority fears a new genocide like the one it suffered under the Ustasha regime, Mesic said: "That fear is spread by the Serbian leadership. It sends bandits armed with Yugoslav Army weapons because it wants to clear a part of Croatia. Croats did not attack a single Serbian village, but Serbian volunteers destroyed many Croatian villages. Who is conducting the policy of genocide?"

In this context, Mesic said that "Seselj speaks what Milosevic does in secret" and that "there is no difference between the two of them" and that "both of them harbor the illusion that they will establish a greater Serbia on the SFRY's ruins."

Asked whether the new Croatian authorities made a mistake by not attempting reconciliation given the hundreds of thousands of people killed by Croatian fascists in Jasenovac, Mesic said: "How many victims? In the aftermath of the war, the SFRY exaggerated the number of its victims so as to claim more reparations. Objective historians have established that several tens of thousands of people were killed in Jasenovac."

"It was not only Serbs who were victims, but Croats, Jews, Macedonians, and Slovenes, too. They were all enemies of fascism. Any attempt by the Croatian leadership to go to Jasenovac would backfire on us. This would be rendered as our acknowledgment of being guilty of killing hundreds of thousands of people," Mesic said.

Replying to the remark that Pavelic was on Hitler's side, Mesic said: "Hitler wanted to satisfy Croats by giving them a puppet state, but the Croats created their own state through their antifascist struggle. It was established in 1943 on the side of the allies.

"Therefore, Croats belong to World War II victors. They have no reason whatever to apologize to anyone, let alone to Serbs," Mesic concluded.

West Slavonia Serbs Want Peaceful Solution

LD1508173791 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1643 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Daruver, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—Representatives of the Serbian Democratic Forum [Srpski Demokratski Forum] and of the Grand National Assembly of the Serbian Autonomous Region [SRV] of Western Slavonia had talks today about devising the modalities for an agreement between representatives of the government of the Republic of Croatia and representatives of the Serbian people on the territory of the SAR of Western Slavonia. The announcement about the meeting was issued today, and it was indicated that it had taken place somewhere "in the Pakrac municipal area".

Let us recall that the Serbian Democratic Forum was recently formed in Lipik on the initiative of a section of Serbian intellectuals in Croatia in an attempt to provide a peaceful platform for the solution of the Croat-Serb problems in the Republic of Croatia.

The meeting today, the statement says, expressed "readiness to have talks as soon as possible and attain such an agreement on harmonizing the interests of the will of the Serbian people in the SAR of Western Slavonia and of the Republic of Croatia that should result in a definition of the status of the Serbian people in the area of the SAR of Western Slavonia and in harmonizing this status with the interests of the Croatian people.

"The Serbian people in Western Slavonia are prepared to take part in defining the sovereignty of the Republic of Croatia, and this also implies its internal system and its relationship with other Yugoslav republics.

"These talks were held to prevent the formulation of the will of the Serbian people in Western Slavonia—expressed in a referendum—from representing an escalation of conflicts on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, to forestall any individual or group excesses, and also to explain that this is a political manifestation and will of the Serbian people in this area who are fully prepared to accept a peaceful and agreed solution of the Croat-Serb conflict," the statement says in conclusion.

Knin Corps Commander Launches Peace Initiative

LD1508142291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1021 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Knin, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—Bearing in mind the full complexity and gravity of the political and security state of affairs in the North Dalmatia area, Knin Corps Commander Major General Spiro Nikovic has launched a peace initiative. The press was today informed about this by Colonel Mesud Hasotic, this corps' representative for information. In so doing, we have proceeded from the assessment that the already charged situation can only get worse and escalate, bringing about unforeseeable fatal consequences for the peoples living in this area.

The aim of this peace initiative is to assemble in one place the most responsible representatives of the following municipalities: Sibenik, Knin, Zadar, Benkovac, Obrovac, Drnis, Biograd na Moru, and Sinj. This place does not have to be Knin, Col. Hasotic said, but if this meeting is met with acceptance, we will guarantee security in any place and ensure the conditions for talks to proceed unhindered.

Although the Knin Corps command does not prejudice the content and scope of possible talks and agreements, it, nevertheless, maintains that all the misunderstandings and actions that impede the free flow of people must cease, that the protection and return of their property must be ensured as well as a safe return of refugees, that people must be enabled to go to work, and that the communications and traffic system should be restored. All this should be done without force, is the opinion of the Knin Corps command, voiced by Col. Hasotic in his talk with the journalists.

The meeting is expected to provide an answer to the question: "How can one continue to live in this area?" Col. Hasotic also voiced the revolt of the Corps command over the dissemination of lies and insults aimed at officers by some of the media and also refuted all the accusations that the Corps did not want to help the people under their competence.

Skirmishes, Shooting Take Place in Vukovar Area

AU1508151291 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] As we have reported, heavy artillery is increasingly being used in the fighting in Slavonia and Baranja. Mirko Stankovic has a report:

[Stankovic] It was peaceful in Vukovar last night. There was only shooting in the region of the (?Djerda forest), and several bullets were shot from sniper weapons toward neighboring Brsadin.

A veritable mortar war continues to be waged in the communes of Osijek and Beli Manastir. There was shooting for almost two whole hours last night. The same weapons were used in [word indistinct] shooting between Stara and Nova Tenja and Sarvas and Bijelo Brdo.

Mutual skirmishes [words indistinct] in the afternoon hours so they reached their full intensity before midnight. This shooting did not have any precise direction. Shots were mainly fired at random so [word indistinct] of the attacks were unpredictable, and most grenades fortunately landed outside the village.

Several grenades fell on the area of the lower town and Jug Dva in Osijek last night, but it has not been mentioned whether anyone was injured and how much material damage was done. There was also shooting between Ugljes and Ceminac, and in Podine they say that a car and the local church was hit. Three members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs were killed and several of them were injured on the road to Bilje.

Dr. Vasil Tupurkovski, Bogic Bogicevic, and Irfan Ajanovic, members of the SFRY Presidency's commission for monitoring the cease-fire in the Republic of Croatia, visited Borovo Selo today and held talks with representatives of the village and its defense force on respecting the decision on a truce.

Finally, let us recall that the first edition of the [word indistinct] SRPSKA ZEMLJA [Serbian Country] is being prepared that will be put together by the Sremske Novine enterprise and printed by Novi Sad DNEVNIK, and which will appear at kiosks throughout the country in the next few days. Apart from Serbian Radio, (?this will be a significant) contribution to [words indistinct] of the Serbian and other peoples which live on the territory of the Autonomous Region of Slavonia, Baranja, and Western Srem and all over Yugoslavia.

'All for All' Principle in Prisoner Exchange

LD1508152191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1340 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Knin, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—At about 1400 today another five members of the Ministry for Internal Affairs and the National Guard were released from Knin's prison. The same number of prisoners, members of the armed formations of "Krajina", were released from Sisak's prison.

Members of the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] mediated on this occasion. The release of the prisoners from Sisak's prison was confirmed by the YPA garrison command of Petrinja to Colonel Branimir Bajic, who escorted the five prisoners from Knin's prison.

In the course of the exchange the well-known "all for all" principle was applied, according to Jovo Dimitrovic, deputy secretary of the Krajina secretariat for internal affairs. He also confirmed that a large group of civilians was released yesterday from Sisak's prison.

He revealed that both sides in the conflict have so far released a total of 104 prisoners, that is, POWs.

Serb-Croatian Talks Held in Borovo Selo

AU1508153791 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] There was shooting at Brsadin and the village of Dalj last night. Our reporter Radovan Brankov has the details:

[Brankov] The Croatian armed forces do not want peace. There is no truce. Day in and day out, Serbian villages are (?shot at). This was what happened last night.

Brsadin and the village of Dalj were shot at, and the regular provocations from Borovo Naselje against the nearest Serbian village are continuing. The armed forces of Croatia have (?tried out) their new arms. This was demonstrated by the fierce fire against Tenja, which is persistently resisting the Ustasha terror.

Last night from the direction of Sarvas there was [word indistinct] again at Bijelo Brdo where units of the Yugoslav People's Army are stationed. Respecting the truce, the defenders of the village and the Army did not respond to the fire.

A delegation of the SFRY Presidency visited Borovo Selo today to investigate the facts concerning all the consequences of the war in the crisis areas of Croatia. The commission is headed by Vasil Tupurkovski, Bogic Bogicevic, and Irfan Ajanovic while Drazen Budisa, member of the Croatian Government, is on the other side.

At this meeting, the Croatian side once again confirmed that it does not recognize the government of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Slavonia, Baranja, and Western Srem as legitimate. Goran Hadzic, president of the government of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Slavonia, Baranja, and Western Srem, replied: We can only accept a delegation of the Serbian and Croatian people. He probably wanted to say that the Serbs in these areas do not recognize the legitimacy of the Croatian leadership.

The location and exchange of prisoners was also discussed. It was agreed in Borovo Selo that prisoners should be exchanged as soon as possible according to the principle of all for all. These desires and demands [words indistinct] understanding on the Croatian side. Let us hope that there will be an exchange of prisoners in Borovo Selo today.

Otherwise, the soldiers who were injured in the attack on Borovo Selo are recovering and feel well. The soldier Stanisa Mitrovic from (?Nis) returned to his unit today.

Militia Forces Mass in Kostajnica

AU1508161391 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Dragan Bera report from Banija]

[Text] The truce has not been respected in Banija in the last 24 hours. There was shooting in several places and mostly in Kostajnica at around 0200 last night. According to a report on Croatian Radio, one member of the Croatian National Guard corps died in last night's skirmishes in this town. It is not known whether anyone died or was injured on the side of the Kostajnica territorials and volunteer units.

According to reliable sources, 27 buses, seven trucks, two Land Rovers, and one car have arrived in Kostajnica in the last few days full of members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Guard and armed members of the Croatian Democratic Community. Since it has not been noticed whether they have left Kostajnica, which would lead to the idea that [words indistinct], this means that another 2,000 Croatian fighters have arrived in Kostajnica.

All this shows that despite the numerous peace initiatives, the Croatian authorities are massing forces in Banija and preparing an offensive of far-reaching dimensions.

The only sensitive point in all this is the exchange of prisoners that should take place today or tomorrow in Glina, according to the principle of all for all. Serbian volunteer units will exchange 14 members of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Guard and armed members of the Croatian Democratic Community who were captured around Dvor and Glina for five captured members of the Serbian volunteer units who are in prison in Zagreb. We have learned that the Yugoslav People's Army will mediate in the prisoner exchange.

It is peaceful in Dvor today. Shops are open, and some enterprises and almost all institutions are working. Refugees are slowly returning, and life is gradually returning to normal.

Fire, APC Movements at Borovo Selo Reported

LD1508225191 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2200 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Sporadic but later more intensive firing began soon after 2100 in Borovo Selo. Roman Varenica reports from Vukovar for Croatian Radio: Firing in the village itself went on for about one and one-half hours. Movement of military vehicles from Orlovaca farm in the direction of Borovo village was observed. At 2310 four armored personnel carriers moved out of Borovo Selo for Vukovar. We have not been able to discover what was happening there.

New Front Opens in Western Slavonia

AU1608095391 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 16 Aug 91

[Zeljko Mandic report]

[Text] Our correspondent Zeljko Mandic has a report from Pakrac on new dramatic events in western Slavonia:

[Mandic] Judging from all appearances, a new front has been opened in western Slavonia. The situation around Okucani is very critical. The Serbian population of Okucani and the nearby Serbian villages are resolute and ready to use all weapons available to them to defend their homes from the forces of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs who, according to some information, number 800 in the immediate vicinity alone.

We have been told that an attack against Okucani can be expected any minute from three directions: Nova Gradiska, Stara Gradiska, and Novska.

As we have just been told, forces of the territorial defense of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Western Slavonia are at the moment occupying Gornji Bogicevci, a village populated mainly by Croats, in which the forces of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs have recently distributed weapons. Upper parts of Okucani, where forces of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs are located, are also being occupied. Fierce struggles are being waged in which, as we learned, two guardists have been

wounded, one of them seriously. None among the forces of the territorial defense of the Serb Autonomous Region of Western Slavonia has been wounded.

Finally, let us say that Mr. Vekic [Croatian minister of internal affairs] announced these clashes at the recent meeting in Novska by saying that mopping-up operations of Serbian villages and Croatian forests are to come.

Serbia

Socialist Party Criticizes Bosnian Moslem Party

LD1508220491 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2049 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Pristina, August 15 (TANJUG)—The ruling Socialist Party (SPS) of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia today accused the Moslem Democratic Action Party (SDA) for the province of Kosovo of trying, in collusion with ethnic Albanians, to create a Moslem state in Serbian territory.

The SPS said in a statement that the SDA had rejected both a Belgrade proposal for a peaceful and democratic way out of the Yugoslav crisis and a historic agreement signed between the Serbs and Moslems in the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The Belgrade document, signed by high-ranking officials of Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia-Hercegovina (except Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic), was initiated by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. It urges the preservation of Yugoslavia as a community of sovereign republics and equal peoples.

The historic agreement between Serbs and Moslems was initiatied by the Moslem Bosnian Party in Bosnia-Hercegovina. Both initiatives have been rejected by the SDA party in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

The rejections and unfounded accusations that Serbia "is pursuing a colonization policy towards the Moslems" aggravates the search for a peaceful and democratic settlement of the Yugoslav crisis, the SPS statement said.

It went on to say that the setting up of Moslem defence headquarters in Kosovo as an outpost of the Moslem defence council in Sarajevo is proof that the SDA is pursuing a divisive policy in these lands.

In the province of Kosovo which is part of Serbia, 90 per cent of the population are ethnic Albanians, a vast majority of whom are Moslems.

Jovic Assails Attacks on Army

LD1508215791 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2101 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Kragujevac, Yugoslavia, Aug 15 (TANJUG)—Member of the Presidency of Yugoslavia from the Republic of Serbia and leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS) Borisav Jovic says that the enemies of Serbia have resorted to attacking the Yugoslav People's Army as the most efficacious way of toppling the Serbian leadership.

Speaking this evening in the Serbian town of Kragujevac, at a convention of the local branch of Serbia's ruling SPS, Jovic said he was convinced that "the army will act as a defender of the constitutional order".

"We shall do everything to prevent war, but we cannot sacrifice the interests of the Serbian people. If there must be war, then at least it must be contained", stressed SPS leader Borisav Jovic.

He went on to say that direct foreign interference "would necessitate the recognition of (the Yugoslav republics of) Slovenia and Croatia, which is beyond all international norms. A military intervention by foreign powers, or by either blue helmets or white helmets, is impossible because there has been no inter-state aggression".

"Slovenia and Croatia are up against a political blank wall, because they had expected international support and now it is clear that we must find the way out of the crisis alone", Borisav Jovic said in conclusion.

People's Party Dismisses Deputy Chairman

LD1508133991 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1032 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Excerpt] Zagreb, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—Milan Djukic, chairman of the Serbian People's Party [Srpska Narodna Strank], today sent a statement to all the media in which he claims that the political council of the Party relieved the Party Deputy Chairman Milan Vergas of all his duties and expelled him from the membership of the Serbian People's Party at a session that took place in Zagreb on 14 August. This is a continuation of the conflict within the Party leadership that started this week, when, according to the statement of Deputy Chairman Milan Vergas, the majority of members of the Party chairmanship opposed the self-willed public remarks of the chairman. [passage omitted]

Regulation Details Conditions for Volunteer Forces

LD1508124391 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1017 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—Volunteers can enroll in the territorial defense in the Republic of Serbia only in case of immediate war danger or state of emergency to complement the units, headquarters, and the institutions of the territorial defense.

This is one of the most important clauses of the regulation on enrolling volunteers in the territorial defense that will come into effect next week after it is published in the Official Gazetteer of the Republic of Serbia.

During peacetime, persons who are not covered by the national service can also become involved in the military exercises and other forms of training of units, headquarters, and institutions of the territorial defense. The regulation was adopted by the government of the Republic of Serbia and foresees that the volunteers of the territorial defense can be "persons not covered by the national service and not under 17."

Hristoljub Cekic, representative of the national defense ministry of the government of the Republic of Serbia, said in his statement to TANJUG that registration forms for enrolling volunteers in the territorial defense have already been prepared. The registration forms should be handed into the national defense ministry through the authorized municipal secretariat for national defense. Persons who are not covered by the national service and women who are covered by the national service but are without a wartime assignment can send their registration forms to the authorized municipal secretariats.

The regulation foresees that the volunteers are sent for the assessment of the capability for the military service. This is in the authority of a special health center that will carry out medical and other checks of the recruits. With the assessment, it is decided that the volunteer is capable, the regulation says, "generally healthy and is psychologically and physically capable to carry and handle arms, as well as to undergo hard physical efforts."

The volunteers who fulfill all the conditions will be registered in the military documentation of the volunteers. The wartime assignment of the volunteers is carried out on the basis of the regulations on mobilizing the SFRY Armed Forces.

They say in the national defense ministry of the government of the Republic of Serbia that volunteers' enrollment in the Yugoslav People's Army is carried out according to Federal regulations.

Acting Media Officials Appointed

AU1508194491 Belgrade RTV Sat TV in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] At a session on 15 August, the government of the Republic of Serbia appointed acting directors and chief and responsible editors of the programs on Radio and Television Belgrade in line with the law on radio and television.

The following have been appointed: Dr. Dobrosav Bjeletic as acting director general of Radio and Television Belgrade; Cedomir Mirkovic as director of Television; Krste Bjelic as chief and responsible editor of current affairs programming of Belgrade Television; Velimir Lukic as chief and responsible editor of cultural and educational programming; Milovan Vitezovic as chief and responsible editor of arts and entertainment programming, and Milan Nedic as chief and responsible editor of the Belgrade program.

The government of Serbia appointed at today's session: Dr. Vojislav Micovic as acting director of Belgrade Radio; Momir Brkic as chief and responsible editor of the First Channel of Belgrade Radio; Djordje Malavrazic as chief and responsible editor of the Second Channel of Belgrade Radio; Slobodan Divjak as chief and responsible editor of the Third Channel of Belgrade Radio, and Mihailo Tosic as chief and responsible editor of Belgrade 202.

This decision is temporary until new organs in the public enterprise of Radio and Television Serbia are appointed.

Albanian Spokesman on Kosovo Republic

AU1508135291 Zagreb Radio Croatia in Albanian 2045 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Text] At an Albanian Foreign Ministry news conference on 12 August, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Shaban Murati, asked why the Republic of Albania still does not recognize the Republic of Kosovo, said:

The Government of the Republic of Albania has asked for the Republic of Kosovo to be accepted within the framework of the Yugoslav federation or confederation, as the Kosovo Assembly declared on 2 July and 7 September 1990. Meanwhile, the Republic of Kosovo cannot be recognized internationally as an entity as long as the Kosovo Assembly has not declared its independence from Yugoslavia.

Macedonia

Republic To Continue Witholding Federal Payments

LD1508194791 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1628 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Skopje, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—The Republic of Macedonia will continue not making payments intended for the federal administration and the Yugoslav People's Army. These funds, a statement from today's session of the republican government stresses, will be earmarked for intervention in the economy.

In view of the fact that families are arriving in Macedonia from the Republic of Croatia and the Socialist Republic of Serbia, particularly since the crisis situation which has developed in the country, the Macedonian government decided today to make a single payment in assistance to these families amounting to 2,000 dinars. At the same time the Macedonian government will investigate the possibility, through its relevant ministry, of providing accommodation for these families.

The government of the Republic of Macedonia has adopted a welfare program for socially threatened members of the population for this year. Funds amounting to 133.6 million dinars have been approved for this program from the republican budget.

Party on Kadijevic's 'Insolent' Response

LD1508173591 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1618 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Macedonia, 15 Aug (TANJUG)—The way in which Army General Veljko Kadijevic replied to Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov is insolent, unprecedented and quite inappropriate for a soldier, the Social Democratic Union of Macedonia Central Committee Presidium said today.

Since General Kadijevic has threatened that the Yugoslav People's Army will be brought up to strength strictly in conformity with federal laws and other regulations and acts by federal authorities, the statement says, this party questions whether this applies to the entire territory of Yugoslavia, or whether it applies only to a section of its states, which includes Macedonia.

The Social Democratic Union asks: "Does this mean that General Kadijevic arrogates to himself the right to decide who stays in Yugoslavia and who can leave, and to evaluate who is in favor of preserving the Yugoslav community?"

Legitimate representatives of Macedonia cannot be subjected to arrogance and threats, this party believes. This is why the Social Democratic Union Presidium suggests that in the future the contacts of the authorities of the Republic of Macedonia be maintained with appropriate federal bodies at the appropriate level; in this instance this means the Supreme Command in which Macedonia has its representative.

General Kadijevic should provide an answer to many questions instead of threatening. In this connection, this party's statement says, the Supreme Command, or, rather, the SFRY Presidency, too should ask how is it possible that the Army in Yugoslavia has a selective attitude toward some of its sovereign states.

Daily: Developments 'Akin to Collective Suicide'

LD1508140691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1203 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] Skoplje, August 15 (TANJUG)—The Skopje daily NOVA MAKEDONIJA says today that war-mongers in Croatia have become more vociferous during the truce.

The daily wonders why we lie to ourselves and to the world that peace is imminent, that we want to live together, that only two persons—an allusion to the Croatian and Serbian presidents—are guilty of everything.

The daily's commentator believes that developments in Yugoslavia have become akin to collective suicide. At present, relations between Serbs and Croats are the greatest danger since they could spread to other parts of the country, even to the Balkans and further.

Estimating that the present truce is deceptive, the daily adds it is being used for the regrouping of forces, the purchase of weapons and distribution of sophisticated arms for hand-to-hand combat to citizens in local communities and firms.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

MBP Official Reaffirms Hope for Federal Solution

LD1608060191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0326 GMT 16 Aug 91

[Text] Zvornik, Aug 16 (TANJUG)—Leader of the Muslim-Bosnian party (MBP) Adil Zulfikarpasic said on Thursday that Yugoslavia was the optimal solution for Serbs, Croats and especially Muslims living in the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

At a speakers' platform in Zvornik, a town in the northeast of the central Yugoslav republic, Zulfikarpasic said that his party (one of two which rallies mostly Muslims) had launched the initiative 'for the preservation of peace and life in the equality- based community of Yugoslavia.'

Zulfikarpasic was referring to, as it has already been called, the 'historical agreement' between Muslims, the majority population in Bosnia-Hercegovina, and Serbs, which urges the preservation of Yugoslavia.

Zulfikarpasic and the leader of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDP), Radovan Karadzic, the initiators of the agreement, underlined that it was 'open to all the peoples and parties in Bosnia-Hercegovina.'

Both party leaders expressed the hope that Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency President Alija Izetbegovic, who at the same time heads the Party of Democratic Action (also rallying Muslims), would 'realize the appropriateness of the proposal of the MBP and the SDP.'

'Without Yugoslavia, there is no Bosnia-Hercegovina in the present borders,' Zulfikarpasic said.

'The problem cannot be resolved without the Serbs, and least of all against them,' he underscored.